Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, lines 26-27 with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 2A[[-2F]] to 2C show the nucleotide (SEQ ID NO:1) and amino acid (SEQ ID NO:2) sequence of the murine ICACC-1 cDNA.

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, lines 28-29 with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 3A[[-3D]] and 3B show an alignment of the murine ICACC-1 protein with bovine calcium activated chloride channel.

Please replace the paragraph bridging page 7, line 30 through page 8, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 4A1[[-4A6]] to 4A3 show the nucleotide (SEQ ID NO: 3) and amino acid (SEQ ID NO: 4) sequence of the human ICACC-2 cDNA.

Please replace the paragraph on page 8, lines 2-3 with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 4B1[[-4B6]] to 4B3 show the nucleotide (SEQ ID NO:5) and amino acid (SEQ ID NO:6) sequence of the human ICACC-1 cDNA.

Please replace the paragraph on page 8, lines 4-5 with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 5A[[-5F]] and 5B show an alignment of the murine ICACC-1 protein with the human ICACC-1 and ICACC-2 protein.

Please replace the paragraph on page 12, lines 4-12 with the following amended paragraph:

The murine ICACC-1 gene displayed significant homology (~50%) with a member of the bovine calcium activated chloride channel family (Figures 3A[[-3D]] and 3B) (Cunningham *et al.*, 1995). The full length cDNA was cloned from a murine cDNA library (Figures 2A[[-2F]] to 2C). Several EST were identified which displayed partial homology to the murine ICACC-1. These EST were obtained from the IMAGE consortium (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory) and sequenced. A full length cDNA

sequence was isolated for human ICACC-1 and 2 by library screening and 5'- and '3 RACE cloning (Clonetech). Analysis of the encoded murine protein sequence identified several conserved motifs including multiple transmembrane domains and several phosphorylation and glycosylation sites.

Please replace the paragraph on page 14, lines 13-20 with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention further provides fragments of the encoding nucleic acid molecule. As used herein, a fragment of an encoding nucleic acid molecule refers to a small portion of the entire protein encoding sequence. The size of the fragment will be determined by the intended use. For example, if the fragment is chosen so as to encode an active portion of the protein, the fragment will need to be large enough to encode the function region(s) of the protein or may encode regions of homology between the ICACC proteins in Figures 5A[[-5F]] and 5B. If the fragment is to be used as a nucleic acid probe or PCR primer, then the fragment length is chosen so as to obtain a relatively small number of false positives during probing/priming.

Please replace the paragraph on page 36, lines 8-18 with the following amended paragraph:

The 2931 bp cDNA isolated contained an open reading frame encoding a protein of 925 amino acids. Figures 2A[[-2F]] to 2C show the nucleotide and amino acid sequence of the murine ICACC-1 cDNA. A nucleotide BLAST (Altschul *et al.*, 1990) database search of GenBank with the full length cDNA revealed that it was similar to the bovine chloride channel protein. Figures 3A[[-3D]] and 3B show an alignment to the bovine calcium activated chloride channel cDNA. Motif analysis of the encoded polypeptide demonstrated several features such as multiple transmembrane regions and glycosylation sites. The primary sequence of murine ICACC-1 was used to perform an EST database search and several undescribed human ESTs were found to be homologous to small portions of the novel cDNA. Figures 4A1[[-4A6]] to 4A3 and 4B1[[-4B6]] to 4B3 show the sequences of the human ICACC-1 and ICACC-2 genes. Both full length human ICACC sequences were obtained by screening a human cDNA library.